

IN THE CLAIMS:

The status of the claims is as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented system, consisting of one or more computers connected by one of an internet and a local area network, for generating a ~~medical~~ diagnosis an electronic clinical record of a patient clinical encounter for submission ~~to~~ for review by a health care reviewing organization, comprising:

~~a data entry interface, the data entry interface facilitating the entry of data corresponding to a medical diagnosis;~~

at least one selection interface module, the selection interface module adapted to facilitate the selection of at least a diagnosis;

~~a navigation module, the navigation module facilitating the identification of fields for which data should be entered, the navigation module facilitating said identification in response to the selection from said selection interface; and~~

a verification module, ~~the verification module~~ for determining ~~the~~ an authorization level for the diagnosis by referring to at least ~~the data in the directed to~~ identified fields, the verification module determining said authorization level prior to ~~the submission of the clinical record to a processing module to a server computer.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said selection interface module further facilitates ~~the selection of a~~ one or more criteria corresponding to a selected diagnosis.

3. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said ~~diagnosis~~ authorization level depends on a plurality of associated criteria.

4. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising a data entry interface, wherein the data entry interface is a single screen interface whereby ~~a~~ the user does not scroll the screen when entering data in at least the identified ~~directed to~~ fields.

5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said verification module is coupled to a rule database which stores rules on the server computer and is employed by the verification module in determining said authorization level.

6. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5, wherein the rule database stores at least two levels of rules, said levels comprising:

a criteria level, the criteria level rules determining a criteria status by referring to data from the identified ~~directed to~~ fields of said clinical record; and

a diagnosis level, the diagnosis level rules determining a diagnosis authorization level by referring to the criteria status of associated criteria.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A medical data utilization system,~~ The system in claim 1, when two or more computers are used, comprising:

a user interface module on a client computer for generating screens to facilitate the submission of data to the system to enable the submission of data to be submitted to the server computer, ~~the user interface associated with a forms database that is used in generating the user screens by which data is entered;~~

a user interface to facilitate the submission of clinical data to the server system, the user interface coupled with a forms database on the server computer that is used in generating user screens on the client system by which data is entered;

a forms-server computer database, associated with the user interface module, for storing forms and controls employed to facilitate in the generation of user screens;

a navigation module operatively coupled to the user interface module, the navigation module operable for guiding the user interaction with the user screens by automatically modifying fields of a respective user screen in response to a user's entering of data therein ~~the navigation module associated with a selection database;~~

a selection-server computer database, associated with the navigation module, for storing the selection database providing information as to the data selections that should be available to a user;

a verification module operatively coupled to the user interface module, the verification module adapted to determine a level of authorization and criteria compliance based on the

entered data, ~~the verification module is associated with a criteria database~~ said determination performed prior to submission of the clinical record to the server; and

a ~~criteria server computer database, associated with the verification module, for the criteria database~~ storing criteria rules, which are evaluated on the client computer to determine an authorization level in real-time whether each data entry meets one or more criteria for determining for authorization.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating the submission of a clinical record for automated processing, comprising:

providing at least one selection interface, the selection interface adapted to facilitate ~~the~~ user selection of one of a plurality of predetermined data values;

receiving a selection from said selection interface; and

providing at least one data field in response to said selection, the data field is a quantified data field associated with an objective criteria, whereby said quantified data field is adapted to be examined so as to facilitate the automated processing of said clinical record.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for entering medical ~~diagnosis~~ diagnosis-based criteria data, comprising the steps of:

entering a diagnosis into ~~the system~~ a database residing on a server computer;

entering a criteria into the ~~system~~ database residing on the server computer, the criteria corresponding to a rule required for authorizing a diagnosis, the criteria associated with at least one finding; ~~and~~

entering ~~a finding~~ findings that meet criteria into the ~~system~~ database residing on the server computer; and

generating a clinical record based on said finding.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising a step of entering additional data corresponding to the entered finding.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising a step of entering a request for additional information by employing an additional request selection interface.

12. (Currently Amended) An interface for entering data for ~~the authorization~~ evaluation of a diagnosis clinical encounter, comprising:

an interactive set of lists, each display in its own pop-up button list, and each list has its own domain;

~~a first portion adapted to facilitate the selection of a system group;~~

~~a second portion adapted to display data entered for said diagnosis element wherein the displayed data changes in response to a change in said element selection;~~

~~a display area within the second portion, the display area displaying parameter and corresponding findings for the selected system group from the first portion;~~

~~and a data entry area, the data entry area facilitating at least the selection of findings and parameters for said system group.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The interface of claim 12, wherein said a display area displays said a parameter and corresponding findings by displaying each parameter and associated finding on a single line.

14. (Currently Amended) The interface of claim 12, wherein ~~the~~ a data entry area is adapted to facilitate the entry of more than one finding for a parameter.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for processing ~~medical procedure~~ patient clinical data by a health care organization, comprising:

~~establishing an internet~~ a user site, connected by an internet to a server computer providing that provides forms at the user site that facilitate the entry of procedure patient clinical data in clinical chart format;

configuring inputs from the forms to apply a first set of rules for authorizing procedures diagnosis associated clinical criteria;

configuring inputs from the forms to apply a second of set of rules for authorizing procedures clinical patient encounter;

receiving medical procedure patient clinical data from medical care providers interacting with the ~~internet~~ user site; and

processing the received data automatically in accordance with a the first and second set of rules.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising providing an indication to a ~~the~~ user of the user~~internet~~ site regarding an ~~the~~ authorization level for the entered ~~procedure~~ data, the indication provided before the user submits the form to the ~~internet~~ user site.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating the single screen submission of ~~medical diagnosis~~ patient clinical data in a computer implemented ~~utilization-management~~ patient care review system, comprising:

providing an element selection interface, the element selection interface facilitating the selection of an element~~associated with a diagnosis symptom~~;

providing a ~~system-group~~ system/group selection interface, ~~the system-group~~ system/group selection interface facilitating the selection of a system group of the selected element; and

providing a parameter selection interface, the parameter selection interface facilitating the selection of a parameter of the selected ~~system-group~~ system/group;

~~providing a finding selection interface, the finding selection interface facilitating the selection of a finding of the selected parameter;~~

~~displaying parameter and corresponding findings for the selected element as a single line of a display scrollbar; and~~

~~adding selected findings to the single line display when findings are selected for a parameter already in the display scrollbar.~~

19. (Currently Amended) a A method for providing an indication of ~~criteria-authorization level~~ appropriateness of a patient clinical encounter to a user of ~~a-utilization in an electronic clinical charting~~ system that facilitates the submission of ~~medical diagnosis~~ diagnosis-relevant clinical data, comprising:

providing a selection interface to select a diagnosis-based criteria;

receiving diagnosis related data from the user;
applying a verification rule to the received data; and
providing an indication of verification result, the indication provided within ~~the selection~~
~~items~~ each selected criterion in the criteria selection interface to indicate ~~criteria~~ each criterion
authorization level.

20. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein review and download of patient clinical encounters are done on a user computer with relevant clinical data in clinical format that is familiar to clinicians and healthcare reviewers.

21. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein criteria guided two-step clinical entry is done by users who are at least one of clinicians or clinician aids at the site of the patient encounter.

22. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein two-step clinical entry of relevant clinical data and made in a uniform, screen display requiring no scrolling and which expedites the transformation of physical patient charts into electronic format for review by health care review organizations.

23. (New) The interface of claim 12, wherein at least four button lists are displayed and include at least one of an Element list, a System/Group list, a Parameter list and a Finding list.

24. (New) The interface of claim 23, wherein a selection in one pop-up list populates a list in the next pop-up button list.

25. (New) The interface of claim 24, wherein
a selection in an Element pop-up list populates a System/Group pop-up list,
a selection in the System/Group pop-up list populates a Parameter pop-up list, and
a selection in a Finding list either
a) enters the selected Finding with the selected Parameter into a chart note data field in the clinically formatted on-screen display; or

b) directs a user to enter a numeric value, which when entered, enters the selected Finding with its value, along with the selected Parameter into a chart note data field in the clinically formatted on screen display.

26. (New) The interface of claim 25, wherein a selection in a criteria pop up list sets the Element list, System/Group list, Parameter list and Finding list to enable the user to select the Finding.

27. (New) The interface of claim 26, wherein only two steps are necessary to enter diagnosis-relevant clinical data:

a) a selection in the criteria pop-up list which either prompts selection of a finding from the Finding List, or

b) for a numerical finding, selects the finding and prompts for the numerical value.

28. (New) The interface of claim 27, where similarly a selection in the additional info pop up list sets the Element list, System/Group list, Parameter list and Finding list to enable the user to select the Finding.

29. (New) A system that prompts for clinically relevant inputs used to generate an electronic record of a patient clinical encounter in real-time for review by a health care reviewing organization and that automatically evaluates clinical data for individual criteria and for the patient encounter.